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SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Letter dated 8 December 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan and Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit, herewith, the text of the Declaration on the Further Development of Cooperation between the Republic of Kazakhstan and Georgia, signed by the President of Georgia, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, and the President of Kazakhstan, Mr. Nursultan Nazarbaev, during President Shevardnadze's official visit to Almaty (see annex).

May we ask your kind assistance in circulating the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 38, 81 and 97.

(Signed) Akhmaral Kh. ARYSTANBEKOVA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the
United Nations

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Georgia to the United Nations

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ANNEX

[Original: Russian]

Declaration on the Further Development of Cooperation between Georgia and the Republic of Kazakhstan

Georgia and the Republic of Kazakhstan, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Guided by the provisions of the Agreement on the basic principles of relations between Georgia and the Republic of Kazakhstan of 1 June 1993, which served as the basis for the further enhancement of the traditionally friendly relations between the two countries,

Seeking the fullest utilization of the material and intellectual potential of the two countries, the development of approaches and the establishment of effective mechanisms for the practical implementation of specific activities for the enhancement of cooperation between the two States,

Reaffirming their commitment to the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, and other basic documents of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE),

Make the following declaration:

1. The Parties are convinced that the development of relations on the basis of the principles of equality, independence and respect for each other's sovereignty will open up new possibilities for the achievement of a higher level of mutually beneficial cooperation in all areas of mutual interest;

2. The Parties will offer each other all possible support with regard to their integration into the competent international and regional structures in accordance with their own national interests;

3. The Parties believe that the consistent observance of the principles set forth in the basic documents of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international and regional organizations is a major factor in the strengthening of confidence and security in the Eurasian region and the safeguarding of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. The Parties, attaching great importance to the documents of the OSCE Lisbon Summit, express the conviction that they will promote the peaceful settlement of conflicts, thus creating a reliable guarantee of security and confidence in the entire Eurasian region;

5. The Parties regard as inadmissible the emergence of new dividing lines on the continent and the undermining of the atmosphere of confidence and cooperation in the world. They attach great significance to the programme of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on "Partnership for Peace", which is destined to play an important role in the strengthening of security and stability in the world;

6. The Parties are convinced that observance of the principles of State sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, non-violation of borders, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, peaceful settlement of disputes and other generally recognized norms of international law is a guarantee of international peace and security;

7. The Parties vigorously condemn acts of aggression, separatism and terrorism in all their forms and manifestations, which threaten the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilize and undermine the foundations of civil society and are directed against human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. Kazakhstan views with understanding the measures being adopted by Georgia to achieve a unified State and believes that the restoration of the territorial integrity of Georgia is one of the major conditions for the establishment of peace and the strengthening of security in the Caucasus;

9. The Parties attach great significance to cooperation in the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and express their desire to enhance the activities of the Commonwealth on the basis of the generally recognized principles of international law and in accordance with their national interests;

10. The Parties will promote in every way possible the development of trade and economic cooperation between the countries of the Black Sea and Caspian Sea regions;

11. The Parties will take steps aimed at the practical realization and operation of the Eurasian transport corridor, which they regard as an important factor in the development of regional cooperation.

The Parties attach great significance to the effective utilization of hydrocarbon reserves and the establishment of favourable conditions for cooperation in relation to oil and gas.

Georgia supports the efforts of the Republic of Kazakhstan to develop reliable and effective ways to transport its hydrocarbon resources to international markets and declares that the Republic of Kazakhstan will be granted favourable conditions for their transit through Georgian territory;

12. Attaching great importance to integration into the international trade system, the Parties note that there is a need to make fuller and more intensive use of the significant potential of their relations, on the basis of the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade/World Trade Organization, and to promote in every way possible the restoration of traditional economic ties under new conditions;

13. Acting from the standpoint of the bilateral treaty and legal basis, the potential of their relations and their own national interests, the Parties are aware of the need to do everything possible to promote cooperation in various economic, scientific and cultural fields;

14. Acting on the basis of their awareness that traditionally friendly relations between their two peoples are a major historical achievement which must be preserved, the Parties will do everything possible to promote the development of a distinct identity on the part of Kazakhs living in Georgia and Georgians living in Kazakhstan, and will also ensure their rights to enjoy their own cultural heritage, practice their own religion and use their own language freely in private and public life;

15. The Parties will promote the development of interparliamentary ties and cooperation and exchange experience in the areas of legislative activity and the establishment of democratic institutions;

16. The Parties will regularly exchange experience and information about social and economic development and the progress of reforms that are being carried out in various fields in the two countries.

DONE at Almaty on 11 November 1997, in duplicate in the Kazakh and Georgian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

(Signed) E. SHEVARDNADZE
President of Georgia

(Signed) N. NAZARBAEV
President of the Republic
of Kazakhstan